GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4020
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
FILING OF INCOME TAX RETURNS
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after introduction of SARAL Forms for filing Income Tax Returns forindividuals the number of persons filing returns the increased;

(b) whether is it also a fact that the persons filing returns found in SARAL Forms found it hassle free and more easier to fill up;

(c) if so, what are the reasons behind the decision of the Government to discard SARAL instead of making it more simpler; and

(d) the details of proposed reforms of filing returns procedure?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

a) Yes, Sir.

b) Yes, Sir.

c) The SARAL Forms were never discarded by the Government. The use of one page SARAL Form No. 2D has been allowed fo assessment year 2002-03 and onwards by notification dated 24th June 2002.

d) Measures taken to simplify the filing of returns include:-

(i) use of simple one page form for non-corporate tax payers.

(ii) introduction of scheme for Bulk filing of Returns by Salaried Employees, 2002 from 1st July 2002.

(iii) introduction of `Sahayata` scheme from 1st August 2002 and formation of `Helpline Income-tax` cell to redress problems of taxpayers.

(iv) authorisation of all computerised branches of nationalised banks in the towns covered by one-by-six scheme to receive direct tax payments in addition to existing authorised branches.